

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00
OMB-01 XMB-04 OPIC-06 /103 W
-----121307Z 036009 /43

P 121227Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3451

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 2156

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD ET

SUBJECT: GSP: FIRST YEAR REVIEW - ETHIOPIA

REF: STATE 067507

1. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED STATISTICS FROM DEPARTMENT WHICH INDICATE ETHIOPIAN EXPORTS TO U.S. DURING 1976 WHICH WERE ELIGIBLE FOR GSP TOTALED US\$766,100 BUT THAT ONLY US\$112,648 WORTH ACTUALLY RECEIVED GSP BENEFITS. (FYI: TOTAL ETHIOPIAN EXPORTS TO US DURING 1976 WERE APPROXIMATELY US\$94 MILLION). RELATIVELY INSIGNIFICANT LEVEL OF GSP-ELIGIBLE EXPORTS AND SMALL PROTION WHICH, DUE PRIMARILY TO IGNORANCE OF GSP AND PAPER WORK INVOLVED, ACTUALLY FULFILLED NECESSARY FORMALITIES TO RECEIVE GSP BENEFITS ARE INDICATIVE OF GSP'S LIMITED IMPACT IN ETHIOPIA. EMBASSY BELIEVES EXPORT LEVELS OF GSP-ELIGIBLE ITEMS DURING 1976 WERE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO GSP PROVISIONS. RATHER, EXPORT LEVELS REFLECT PREVIOUS TRADE PATTERNS (SUCH AS DRIED BEANS WHICH REPRESENT 72 PERCENT OF ALL GSP-ELIGIBLE EXPORTS) OR IN THE CASE OF NEW ITEMS, ARE PRIMARILY RELATED TO NON-GSP CONSIDERATIONS.

2. EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE THOROUGHLY EXPLAINED GSP SYSTEM TO UNCLASSIFIED

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OFFICIALS OF MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AS WELL AS LEADING BUSINESSMEN AND HAVE DISTRIBUTED GSP EXPLANATORY MATERIALS. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE IS ISSUING FROM A CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN WHEN REQUESTED BY EXPORTERS. HOWEVER, EVEN THOSE INDIVIDUALS AWARE OF GSP GENERALLY VIEW IT AS OF VERY LIMITED RELEVANCE. NO NEW GSP-RELATED INVESTMENT UNDERTAKEN OR PLANNED.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES USE OF GSP MAY INCREASE GRADUALLY AS
ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT, LOCAL EXPORTERS AND US IMPORTERS
BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH PROGRAM. NEVERTHELESS, IMPACE OF GSP
IN ETHIOPIA WILL REMAIN VERY LIMITED FOR THE FORESEEABLE
FUTURE.
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Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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